

Appln No. 09/575,197
Amdt. Dated October 27, 2006
Response to Final Office Action of August 25, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Office Action dated August 25, 2006.

Specification

At Page 1 of the Specification, the paragraph entitled "Co-Pending Applications" has been deleted and replaced by an updated paragraph. US Application numbers have been replaced by corresponding US granted patent numbers, where applicable. The Applicant submits that these amendments introduce no new matter.

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to specify that the coded data is indicative of a plurality of locations on the bill. Basis for this amendment can be found at page 15, lines 12-13.

Claim 1 further specifies that the sensing device is an optically imaging pen. Basis for this amendment can be found at page 10, line 26.

Claim 1 further specifies that the computer system receives digital ink. Basis for this amendment can be found at page 29, lines 28-30.

The remaining claims have been amended to maintain consistency with claim 1.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

The Applicant contests the Examiner's assertion that claim 1 is obvious in view of the disclosure of Speiser.

The Examiner has relied upon the Speiser disclosure at page 6 in order to allege that certain features defined in claim 1 are taught by Speiser. In the Applicant's submission, the following features specified in claim 1 are not suggested anywhere in Speiser:

"coded data indicative of a plurality of locations on the bill" – at page 6, last paragraph, Speiser teaches two different identification symbols i.e. bar code and/or magnetic characters and/or optical characters, or any other identification means readable by man or machine. Speiser teaches two different types of identification symbol, either of which arguably reads onto the Applicant's "coded data indicative of an identity of the bill". But there is nothing in Speiser that reads onto "coded data indicative of a plurality of locations on the bill". The second identification symbol taught by Speiser is evidently not an indication of a plurality of locations on the bill.

"receiving ... digital ink containing data indicative of ... a position of the pen relative to the bill". Again, this feature cannot be found anywhere on page 6 of Speiser. Speiser's computer system receives data indicative of the first and second identification symbols 16 and 18 shown in Figure 1, but nothing indicating the position of an optically imaging pen relative to Speiser's form.

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It is therefore clear that Speiser's system and the system as presently claimed are working in different ways. Whereas Speiser require two different identification symbols to be received in his computer system, the present invention requires a bill identity and a pen position. As regards Perazza, this document fails to teach digital ink received from an optically imaging pen, which digital ink contains data regarding a bill identity and a position of the pen. All Perazza teaches is known scanning technology, such as that used by fax machines and the like. Perazza does not capture digital ink in a pen and Perazza's computer system does not receive digital ink containing, *inter alia*, the position of the pen relative to a bill.

For at least these reasons, it is submitted that the present invention is not obvious in view of either of Speiser or Perazza. Both documents fail to teach the essential elements of the present invention as defined in claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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